

Fishing Journal

Information For The Serious Angler

by John Martinis

August 2013

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Seminars 2013

by John Martinis

Salmon Seminar

August 14

At the Renton Puget Sound
Anglers Meeting
2424 NE 27th St Renton

6:30PM

[Directions](#)

Coho Seminar

September 20, 2013

At Bayside Marine

6:30PM

[Directions](#)

The Public is invited to all my seminars and the seminars are free.

Fishing Derbies

Humpy Showdown

August 24

Everett Coho Derby

September 21-22

[More Information](#)

Puget Sound Pinks

Pinks Return to Puget Sound 1.2 Million above the 2011 Return Maps and Videos and Much More

**Snohomish River 988,621 Pinks
Skagit River 1.2 Million Pinks
Stillaguamish River 409,700 Pinks
Puyallup River 1.2 Million Pinks
Green River 1.3 Million Pinks**

Puget Sound salmon is a huge success story in the 2013 salmon fishing season and the story continues to unfold. Two significant events happen on August 1, Puget Sound salmon fishing Area 8-2 and the Snohomish River below Highway 9 opens for Pink salmon. Coho are also open in Area 8-2 and in the Snohomish River, however Coho will not be abundant until later on in August and early September.

Fishing for Pink salmon in Puget Sound is a very significant event that happens every other year. Many anglers who prefer not to fish for Chinook look forward to the Pink salmon run to stock up their freezer with fresh fish or smoked fish. There are other anglers who are finishing up their Chinook fishing and are now switching over to Pink salmon.

Last year Chinook fishing ended after the Chinook quota was reached in Puget Sound and anglers quickly switched over to Coho fishing. This year there will be a good mix of Pink salmon and Coho in August. I expect August to be one of the finest salmon fishing months in modern times. I believe by the time we get to Labor Day you will agree with me that Puget Sound exceeded our

Just Fishing



New Puget Sound Salmon Seasons 2013

Area 6: July 1-Aug. 15

CHINOOK - min. size 22".

Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2

(combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release wild

CHINOOK, wild COHO, and CHUM.

July 1-Aug. 15 No min. size.

Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK, wild

COHO, and CHUM.

Aug. 16-Sept. 30 No min. size.

Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK, wild COHO, and CHUM.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained.

Dec. 1-Apr. 10 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2. Release wild CHINOOK. See Dungeness Bay Fishery and Closure below. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained.

Area 7: July 1-July 31

CHINOOK - min. size 22".

Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2

(combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained. See Southern

Rosario Strait/Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca Closure below. See Bellingham Bay

Aug. 1-Sept. 30 CHINOOK -

expectations of what modern day salmon fishing looks like in Puget Sound.

Let us first look at the migration route of Pink salmon into Puget Sound. These salmon travel East through Admiralty Inlet. Most of them travel down the southern shoreline of Whidbey Island. As they travel the southern shorelines of Whidbey they hit popular fishing areas such as: Lagoon Point, Bush Point and Mutiny Bay.

One of the first places that Pink salmon school up in huge numbers is off of Indian Point on the eastern shoreline of Useless Bay. From that point they disperse throughout Puget Sound. The Snohomish River Pinks swim across Possession Bar and form an immense school of salmon that fills the area between the Ship Wreck and Mukilteo.

Other schools of Pink salmon branch off from Useless Bay and travel down the Eastern shoreline of Puget Sound. These huge schools of Pink salmon gather at Richmond Beach.

As you can see, there are large schools of Pink salmon that can be easily reached from Everett and Mukilteo as well as the Shilshole Bay Marina.

I think we should start our Pink salmon adventure starting the first week of August: as I stated earlier, Pink salmon will be schooled off of Indian Point near the Eastern shoreline of Useless Bay. To attack these fish properly you must target them at daylight. This cannot be an afterthought to Chinook fishing if Chinook fishing is still open. I believe that if you start fishing Indian Point for Pinks that first week of August, it should be easy limits. If you are strictly targeting Pink salmon the limit is four Pink salmon.

As we get closer and beyond August 10, I would target Pinks at the Shipwreck and

Richmond Beach. After August 15, you will find Pinks from Mukilteo to the Shipwreck and from Richmond Beach to the Shilshole Marina.

[Humpy Hollow Map \(Mukilteo to Shipwreck\)](#)

[Richmond Beach Pinks Map](#)

[Indian Point Pinks Map](#)

[Rigging for Pinks Video](#)

One of the more desirable aspects of fishing for Pink salmon is that of its relaxing nature, except when you have three fish on at one time. Then it is pure pandemonium. No fancy electronics are required. Most of the fishing is done in water that is over 200 feet deep. Pinks are suspended in the early morning hours between 30 feet and 60 feet deep. There are no requirements to follow any bottom contour or structure. Now, don't take it for granted that these fish are a pushover. When you locate schools of Pinks you must stay on top of them and return frequently to the last area in which you caught a fish or two or three. And more importantly, always make note of the direction in which you are traveling when you caught your last fish. Every day, every tide you will find that trolling in one direction will produce significant better results than traveling in the opposite direction. Most often, trolling with the tide will produce the best results.

When you are fishing for Pinks, you do not want your fishing to stall out after the sun gets on the water. A common mistake that Pink salmon anglers make, is not adjusting their depth as the day gets brighter. Here is a good rule of thumb: set your gear from 20 to 30 feet deep at daylight. By 8:30 in the morning, start moving at least one set of gear to 60 feet deep. By 9:00 AM the fish will be from 60 to 90 feet deep. By 11 AM you will find Pinks as deep as 120 feet.



min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained. Release wild COHO, and CHUM. See Southern Rosario Strait/ Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca. See Bellingham Bay Closure and Fishery, Samish Bay Closure, Lummi Reservation and Bay Closure, and Yellow and Low Islands Preserve

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Only 1 CHINOOK may be retained. Release wild COHO. See Bellingham Bay Closure and Fishery, Samish Bay Closure, Lummi Reservation and Bay Closure, and Yellow and Low Islands Preserve.

Dec. 1-Apr. 30 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release wild Chinok. See Bellingham Bay Closure and Fishery, and Yellow and Low Islands Preserve on

Area 8-1: Aug. 1-Sept. 30 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release CHINOOK.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release CHINOOK.

Area 8-2: Aug. 1-Sept. 30 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK. See Tulalip Terminal Area

Pink Gear

This is where life get simple. The only thing you need to fish for Pinks is **11 inch white flashers** and **Pink 2.5 mini sardine squid**. The flashers are pure white flashers with no reflective tape of any kind. The pink mini sardines can be rigged with a **2/0 red Gamakatsu** octopus hook. Tie up a 2/0 red Gamakatsu hook on **20lb fluorocarbon** leader material. Slip a #4 or #5 red bead down the leader until it rests against the eye of the hook. Next, slide the mini sardine down the leader and over the red bead. Tie the leader to the big end of the flasher to a length of 14"-16".

Pink salmon Rig Diagram

Trolling Speeds for Pinks

The correct trolling speed for Pink salmon is 1.5mph. If you want to judge your speed by the angle of your downrigger cable: your cable should have a slight angle to it. Trolling to fast for Pinks, will translate into poor fishing.

Trolling Without Downriggers

Trolling for Pink salmon can be done easily without the use of the downrigger. You can tie a 6 to 8 ounce mooching sinker 24 inches above the white flasher. With this rig, I would recommend letting the line out 50 to 60 feet. A very good technique to use when not fishing with a downrigger: occasionally put the motor in neutral until the gear is hanging straight down. Now, with the motor in gear until you reach the 1.5mph trolling speed. You can repeat this several times over the course of the morning. You will find that Pink salmon strike at your gear as the gear moves up through the different water columns. This is an especially lethal technique as the fish go deeper later in the morning hours. I have also found this technique to be especially good when

using a downrigger.

Pink Salmon Fishing from the Beach

If you don't have a boat, that is not a problem if you want to fish for Pink salmon in Puget Sound. There are several places to fish from shore that have public beaches.

At **Bush Point** on Whidbey Island, there is a public fishing beach. In this particular area be careful not to trespass on private property. There is also a boat launch at Bush Point with limited parking. At **Mukilteo City Park**, this is a great place to fish from shore with plenty of parking. At **Kayak County Park** in Port Susan there is a great beach and fishing pier to fish from with good parking. This particular beach is better fishing for Pinks in late August.

If you are fishing from the beach, the gear that you use will be significantly different than the gear that you use trolling from a boat. The rig that I prefer using is a 2.5 Buzz Bomb or the **Gibbs Buzz Bomb** knockoff. When rigging a Buzz Bomb, I like to use a #1 Gamakatsu siwash hook. Rig an 18", 20lb fluorocarbon leader with a #1 Gamakatsu siwash hook on the end of the leader. Slide a #4 or #5 red bead down the leader until it rests against the eye of the hook. Now slide a 2.5 Goldstar pink mini sardine squid down the leader and over the red bead and the hook. Now slide an #4 or #5 red bead down the leader until it rests against the top of the squid. Now slide the Buzz Bomb down the leader until it rests against the red bead. Tie a #10 black barrel swivel on the loose end of the leader. Remember that the hook must be barbless.

Cast the Buzz Bomb as far as possible. Let the Buzz Bomb sink about 10 feet below the surface. At this point you can jig and reel. Do not let the Buzz Bomb



Fishery.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release CHINOOK. See Tulalip Bay Closure.

Nov. 1-Apr. 30 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2(combined). Release wild CHINOOK. See Tulalip Bay Closure. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained.

May 31-Sept. 2 Open Fridays through Noon Mondays ONLY. CLOSED JUNE 15. CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK.

Sept. 7-Sept. 22 Open Saturdays and Sundays only. CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK.

Area 9: July 1-July 15 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK and CHUM.

July 16-Aug. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release wild CHINOOK and CHUM. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained. CLOSED south of a line from Foulweather Bluff to Olele Point, except lawful to fish from shore contained within the boundary of Salsbury Point Park; daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release

get near the bottom. It is totally unnecessary to let the Buzz Bomb get near the bottom. Pink salmon will be suspended and not anywhere near the bottom. This will save you the agony of snagging your gear on the bottom.

San Juan Pink Salmon

Pink salmon headed for the Fraser River in Canada are forecast to be near 8.9 million. What does this mean to you? This translates into superb fishing on the West side of San Juan Island at Eagle Point.

Fishing for Pinks is simple and easy at Eagle Point as long as you are there when the tide is coming in. This is completely different fishing than it is in Puget Sound. The time of day has no bearing on the depth of the fish. The fish will be suspended in 30 to 60 feet of water. The bottom depth can range anywhere from 90 feet to 300 feet deep.

Many days during the first two weeks of August you will see large roaming schools of Pink salmon on the surface at Eagle Point. At the strongest part of the Pink salmon run you will encounter acres and acres of Pink salmon roaming the surface. This will usually happen about two hours into the incoming tide. Even though these salmon are on the surface, the better fishing will be 30 to 60 feet deep.

The same Pink salmon gear that we use in Puget Sound will be appropriate in the San Juan Islands. The same trolling speeds will also apply, 1.5mph.

The only variable that will be different than fishing Puget Sound will be the depth you fish. You will not be dropping your fishing gear to deeper depths when the sun is high on the water.

[Eagle Point Pink Salmon Map](#)

Puget Sound Coho

Puget Sound Coho has gotten off to an early start. When I was writing this Newsletter, anglers were already catching resident Coho and ocean Coho on the West side of Possession Bar.

When the Chinook season ends in Area 9, a bonus limit of salmon will look like this: two Coho and two Pinks. You could keep four Pinks, but it would be nice to have some Coho in the mix.

The Coho rig that was so successful last year: Goldstar [3.5 OAL12R](#) (purple haze) squid with a Goldstar UV Ace Hi Fly used as an insert. This can be rigged with 30lb fluorocarbon leader material. The leader should be rigged to a Gibbs Race Racer flasher with the leader being 30"-36".

Snohomish River Pinks Opens August 1, Below Hwy 9

I will cover some Snohomish River Pink salmon basics in this Newsletter, however the September Newsletter will extensively cover Freshwater Pink salmon fishing.

The opening day of Pink salmon fishing in the Snohomish River has changed to August 1, for the 2013 season. In 2011, the Snohomish River opened on August 15. Even though there may be fewer salmon in the river on the earlier opening day, the fish will be fresher and more aggressive. I am fairly confident that there will be some Pinks to be caught

Just Fishing



CHINOOK and CHUM.
Sept. 1-Sept. 30 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK and CHUM.

Oct. 1-Oct. 31 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release CHINOOK.

Nov. 1-Nov. 30 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release wild CHINOOK.

Jan. 16-Apr. 15 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON species - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined). Release wild CHINOOK. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained.

Area 10: June 1-June 30 Catch-and-release. Open only north of a line from Point Monroe to Meadow Point.

July 1-July 15 No min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release CHINOOK. See Shilshole Bay Closure and Elliott Bay Closure.

July 16-Aug. 31 CHINOOK - min. size 22". Other SALMON - no min. size. Daily limit 2 (combined) plus 2 additional PINK. Release wild CHINOOK. Beginning Aug. 1 release CHUM. See Shilshole Bay and Elliott Bay Fishery and Closures. See Sinclair Inlet Fishery. Season may close earlier if CHINOOK guideline is attained.

early on because anglers fishing for Cutthroat trout have been hooking into a few Pinks.

If you talk to 10 different freshwater Pink salmon anglers, you will get 10 different opinions on which rig or technique offers the most success. I prefer to use ¼ ounce jigs with pink mini squids attached. There are several different manufacturers of these jigs, however I prefer the [Danielson ¼ ounce jigs](#). These jigs are relatively inexpensive and they are extremely effective. Cast the jig with a light action spinning rod. Most of the time these salmon will be suspended a foot or two above the bottom. It is important that you do not let the jig hit the bottom because the Snohomish River is paved with logs. In other words, you stand a good chance of losing your jig if you continually bounce the bottom with your jig.

If I am fishing from a boat I normally do not cast blindly. I only cast when I see Pink salmon that are rolling or surfacing. This is a good indicator that many more salmon are swimming below the surface.

On most days, the areas that I start looking for Pink salmon are between the beginning of Ebey slough above Rotary River View Park and the Highway 9 bridge near the City of Snohomish.

There are three main boat launches in the Snohomish River: [Langus Park](#), [Lowell Rotary River View Park](#) and the boat launch in the town of Snohomish.

1st Annual Salmon for Soldiers August 10th, 2013 Port of Everett, Washington Event Headquarters – Bayside Marine

The Outdoor Line on 710 ESPN Seattle and the Take a Warrior Fishing foundation are presenting the 1st Annual

“Salmon for Soldiers” fishing event in Everett, Washington on Saturday, August 10th. What better way to say THANK YOU to our young wounded veterans than to spend a great day fishing with them on the Puget Sound.

The forecast calls for a record run of pink salmon to the Puget Sound this summer and August is also a great time to hook into a king salmon or perhaps an early silver salmon. Fish will be caught, these young soldiers will smile, and you’ll get to meet some of America’s genuine war hero’s. Everyone wins at an event like this!

We expect as many as 100 wounded veterans from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom to participate in the event and we need boats, boats, and more boats to help the cause. You can be responsible for putting a smile on these young soldiers faces, many of whom have been wounded in combat and are now trying to put their lives back together here at home.

Here’s the “Salmon for Soldiers” schedule for August 10th, 2013

6:00 a.m. – 7:00 a.m. – Check in and Boat Assignments

6:30 a.m. – 173rd Airborne Association presents the American Flag, Pledge of Allegiance

7:00 a.m. – FISH ON!

3:00 p.m. – Check in, BBQ, and Raffle

Where – Everett Marina 10th Street Boat Launch and Bayside Marine

In association and cooperation with Project Healing Waters, The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Take a Warrior Fishing, and The Outdoor Line on 710 ESPN Seattle

[More Information](#)

Special Purchase

Tackle For The Serious Angler

August Salmon Sale



Bulk Pink Salmon White Flashers
Sale Price \$8.95 each
Reg. Price \$12.95



Okuma CLX 300 Salmon Reel
Sale Price \$29.50
Reg. Price \$39.50



Shimano TDR Salmon Rod
Sale Price \$23.50
Reg. Price \$29.95



2.5 Hot Pink Buzz Bomb
Sale Price \$2.75 each
Reg. Price \$4.95

Prices Good Through August 30th

John's Sporting Goods

John's Sporting Goods
1913 Broadway
Everett, WA 98201

20% Discount on your next in store purchase

Items that are excluded: Downriggers, Ace Line Hauler, Shimano Products, G Loomis, St. Croix, Electronics, CTO3R Crab Pot, Braided Line, items that are discounted, on sale, repairs, parts and closeout items. Cannot be used in combination with discounted gift certificates.

Not valid for online purchases or mail order

Valid only with coupon at the time of sale
Expires August 30, 2013

You Must have this coupon in your hand at the time of purchase. No exceptions made.

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**Scotty Downrigger
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300ft Cable
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300ft Spectra Braid
\$49.95**

Included in the price is new brake pads, your choice of 300' of 150lb. Cable or 300' 200lb. of Cortland spectra downrigger line, cleaning and lubricating the downrigger.

Coupons and discounted gift certificates cannot be used for this service

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Thursday: Big Fish Day

Friday: Deal of the Day

**Scotty Downrigger Deal
Exclusive at
John's Sporting Goods**

**Scotty 1106 Guide
Guide Series**

**Installed with
300ft 200lb Braided Spectra
#1148 Ball hook
#371 Scotty Snubber
\$525**

**Standard Scotty 1106
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